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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.: 10/713,339  
Applicant: Rainer Ostermann et al.  
Filed: November 14, 2003  
TC/A.U.: 3652  
Examiner: Charles N. Greenhut  
Docket No.: 35156US1  
Customer No.: 00116

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Amendment "A"**

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office action mailed March 9, 2006. The period for response was set to expire June 9, 2006. Accordingly, applicants respectfully petition for and request a three (3) month extension of time to respond, up to and including September 9, 2006. By this Amendment one claim has been canceled and two new claims in excess of 20 have been added, for a net total of one new claim in excess of 20. A check for \$1070 is enclosed to cover the \$1020 extension-of-time fee and the \$50 extra-claim fee.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims that begins on page 5 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Steven J. Solomon

Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)

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01 FC:1253  
02 FC:1202

1020.00 OP  
50.00 OP

September 7, 2006  
Date

Signature of Attorney